

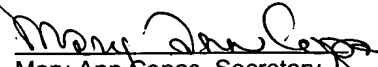
App. No 09/651,797  
Amdt. Dated December 19, 2003  
Reply to Office Action of August 20, 2003



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the Application of Wolfgang Peter et al

Ser.No.: 09/651,797

Filed: August 30, 2000

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATMENT OF METALLIC  
WORKPIECES

Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: Sikyin Ip

Commissioner for Patents

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 08/20/2003**

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.